

payment of the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(3), is filed concurrently herewith.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 5 and 36-38 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims to read as follows¹:

5th F1

1. (Four Times Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid comprising consecutive nucleotides that encode a human TREL polypeptide, wherein said TREL polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4.

K2

4. (Four Times Amended) A substantially pure nucleic acid that hybridizes under stringent conditions to SEQ ID NO:3, wherein said stringent conditions comprise washing steps using 2X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 65°C, and wherein said nucleic acid encodes a TREL polypeptide of SEQ ID NO:4, or a soluble fragment thereof, that is capable of binding to a cell selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a K562 promyelocytic cell;
- b) a THP-1 monocytic leukemia cell;
- c) an HT29 colon adenocarcinoma cell;

¹ Applicants have attached hereto an Appendix of Amendments at Exhibit A that discloses the amendments to the claims in the underline and bracket format.

- E2*
- d) a 293 embryonic kidney cell; and
 - e) a Cos kidney fibroblast cell.
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E3

7. (Four Times Amended) The nucleic acid of claim 6 comprising SEQ ID NO:3.

28. (Three Times Amended) A method of expressing a TRELL polypeptide in an animal cell culture comprising:

E4 Sub 3

[a.] introducing a vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule having consecutive nucleotides that encode said TRELL polypeptide into said cell culture, wherein said TRELL polypeptide comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, or a soluble fragment thereof; and

[b.] allowing said cell culture to live under conditions wherein said nucleic acid molecule is expressed in said cell culture.

30. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein said animal cell culture is a an insect cell culture or a mammalian cell culture.

31. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 28 wherein said vector is a virus or a plasmid.

Please add the following claims:

E4

39. (Added) A substantially pure nucleic acid,

consisting essentially of consecutive nucleotides that encode a TRELL polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

40. (Added) A substantially pure nucleic acid, comprising consecutive nucleotides that encode a human TRELL polypeptide, wherein said nucleic acid comprises SEQ ID NO:3.

41. (Added) The nucleic acid of claim 4, wherein said soluble fragment of said TRELL polypeptide comprises an amino-terminus that begins between amino acid numbers 81 and 139 of SEQ ID NO:4.

42. (Added) The nucleic acid of claim 41, wherein said soluble fragment of said TRELL polypeptide comprises amino acid numbers 81 to 284 of SEQ ID NO:4.

43. (Added) The method of 30, wherein said mammalian cell culture is a human cell culture.

44. (Added) A method of expressing a TRELL polypeptide in an animal cell culture, comprising the steps of:

[a.] introducing a vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule comprising consecutive nucleotides encoding a TRELL polypeptide into said cell culture, wherein said TRELL polypeptide consists essentially of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2; and